



pure simple

The Voter's Choice 1999

A Review of the Year's Activities and Developments in Voter Registration





With admiration and great respect,

we dedicate the Voter's Choice 1999 to Beaky Rowe,

Voter Services Supervisor.

Becky lost her 12 year battle with cancer in May

just weeks before the publication of this booklet which she edited.

In the spirit of her courage, tenucity, fierce independence

and overwhelming love for youth, The Voter's Choice 1999

is dedicated to her trailblazing life and spirit.



Compelled to follow our belief about the importance of keeping democracy alive for future generations, 1999 proved to be a progressive year. The Voter's Choice 1999 profiles the leap in technology, the excitement of youth voter outreach, and the emphasis on voter education attained in Arkansas.

Talk Back...Vote launched in August as a 4-year project to encourage vouth participation in voting. We recognize that throughout history vouthful idealism has re-awakened society and nudged it forward to new realizations. The youth of today are stewards of tomorrow. Their voices must be, and will be, heard!

My office continues to build on our heritage of service. We strive to invigorate Arkansans to put democracy into action and vote, while assuring the integrity of elections data. One way we sought to fulfill these ideals was through the investment in upgraded hardware and software for the offices of County Clerks statewide.

Pure and simple leadership. Pure and simple progress in technology. Pure and simple voter outreach and education. Let us share the goal of increasing opportunities for Arkansans to become more involved in the election process. Only pure and simple democracy allows for full participation:

Sharon Priest

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Pure and Simple Leadership 1999 in Profile

At first glance, 1999 was a typical non-election year in the Voter Services

Department of the Office of Secretary of State. Registration slowed:

County Clerks cleaned up their voter files through the address confirmation process; voter demographics remained steady. However, closer examination reveals that 1999 stands out as a year of terrific progress in the area of voter services. There were clearly defined areas of concentration for the Office of Secretary of State during this "down time:"

- · Technology
- · Youth voter outreach
- · Voter education

Through these three areas, Secretary Priest strongly positioned

Arkansans and those who assist them in the voting process for the

Presidential election year ahead and for the future.

The words "pure and simple" are absolutely appropriate to describe the goals set for the year in the three areas above. First of all, the Secretary of State upgraded all hardware and software in the offices of County Clerks statewide. Next, the office tackled the largest non-voting population in the state: 18 to 24 year olds. Finally, the office published the first voter education handbook available for public distribution in years. The goals were aggressive and some projects will continue as works in progress through 2002. The year was clearly one of leadership into difficult areas and of continued commitment to improving the choices of Arkansas voters.

1999 Technology Strides... Pure and Simple Progress

Through a legislative allocation of \$1.9 million. Sharon Priest implemented a massive statewide upgrade project to advance the overall management of voter services in Arkansas. First, the office replaced every piece of hardware in the offices of County Clerks statewide with Dell Pentium III servers and workstations and new Hewlett Packard laser jet printers. Hardware deployment to the counties began in August of 1999 and continued through early November.

Next, the existing CMIS Voter Management software was upgraded to its newest version, running on an Access 2000 platform. CMIS, an Arkansas software vendor, conducted training sessions at the State Capitol for all County Clerks on the new software. Follow-up training on specific areas of the software will be scheduled in 2000, after the County Clerks have been able to utilize their upgraded software for a few months. Change is always difficult, and this project proved to be no exception to that rule. However, the Secretary of State continues to be committed to "an electronic state."

The next step in the process was to achieve internet connectivity for all County Clerks. This was certainly no easy task, as no single internet service provider (ISP) maintained a "footprint" over the entire state of Arkansas. After two months of communication with twelve (12) phone companies and nineteen (19) ISPs, the County Clerks were online by September, 1999. This leap in communication has allowed greater public access to the County Clerks, has facilitated communication between the Secretary of State and the Clerks and between the Clerks themselves.

Because of the transition to new software and hardware, the Voter Services Help Desk staff, troubleshooting the statewide software, grew and reorganized. The department took over management of the statewide servers, sending and receiving data from the counties. This reorganization has been successful in providing more personal, direct and efficient service to the counties.

Finally, Voter Services began offering the statewide voter registration data on Cdrom as well as on ZipTM Disk. Costs for the data file are \$2.50 and \$10.00 respectively, the least expensive in the nation. The data is also available in a generic ASCII text file by Congressional, State Representative and State Senate Districts.

At the close of 1999, keeping pace with technology was a work in progress at the Secretary of State's Office. With the continued partner-ship and cooperation of the County Clerks, the foundation has been laid for better governance of the voter management process.

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Talk Back...Vote Voter Outreach Pure and Simple in 1999

What can be purer and simpler than asking what someone wants and then providing it? This is exactly what Sharon Priest did in 1999 with the largest group of non-voters in the state: 18-24 year olds!

Whereas in 1998, this age group comprised 7% of the state's registered voters, it only comprised 3.75% of those who voted that year. This information, coupled with the youth outreach priority set by the NASS New Millennium Project, convinced Secretary Priest that strides must be made in this area in Arkansas.

Arkansans may be proud that their state is now a national leader in youth campaigns with its "Talk Back...Vote" project. The project launched in August, 1999 with the release of a 20-minute video with kids talking to kids about voting. It was unscripted, hosted by Craig O'Neal, cast with 16 teenagers and endorsed by the Arkansas Board of Education. The project has evolved into:

Talk Back...Vote

- · Talk Back...the Video
- SOS Onsite
- Talk Back...to Sharon (2000)
- Talk Back...to the Candidates (2000)

The project took on a life of its own in 1999. With the distribution of the video to all 350 high schools in the state, requests for Secretary Priest and SOS Onsite in the high schools, technical schools and colleges rose sharply. Acceleration will occur in 2000 as a presidential election year.

SOS continues to work closely with the Department of Motor Vehicles and has plans in 2000 to contact all 18 year old drivers, urging them to register and vote. At the close of 1999, over 41,000 Arkansas drivers were 18. During that same year, a mere 6,000 18 year olds registered to vote.

SOS also plans a parental campaign for 2000, since non-voting parents have non-voting children. Talk Back...to the Candidates will provide a forum for teenagers and candidates statewide by Congressional District. The teenagers told Secretary Priest that they wanted the candidates to talk to them. Talk Back...Vote is a direct answer to that request of young people, pure and simple.

Pure and Simple Voter Education in 1999 "vote notes"

Voter education is a very difficult area, especially since election laws can seem confusing. Simple procedures like absentee voting can seem difficult when explained over the phone, in a letter, or by email. With registration and voting alternatives growing all the time, the only simple answer was to publish a comprehensive and all-inclusive voter handbook. No previous model was available, so the publication had to be totally unique in approach.

Since its publication and release, the small and simple hand-held "vote notes" has proven very popular as a resource for Arkansans about voter registration and its desired outcome: voting, the purest exercise of choice that we have as Americans.

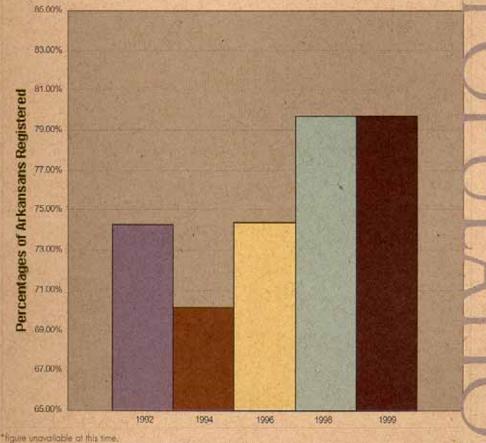
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What does the data tell us? VAP (Voting Age Population)...

For the second year in a row since 1994, the percentage of Arkansans registered to vote relative to those eligible exceeded the national average. According to the latest US Census estimates, 79.71% of Arkansans are registered to vote. The highest rates of registration exist in Madison, Ouachita, Phillips and Scott counties (all at or above 90%).

Researchers have strong reservations about the VAP since it includes groups of ineligible voters here in the United States and excludes eligible voters who are living abroad. Some experts suggest decreasing VAP percentages of the Census by as much as 10% for a more accurate figure. One report places the 1998 VAP national average figure at 64.6% instead of the US Census figure of 70.6% (Committee for the Study of the American Electorate).

Year	% of Arkansans Registered	National Average	Registered Voters	Arkansas VAP
1992	74.29%	70.60%	1,317,944	1,774,000
1994	70.16%	67.64%	1,274,885	1,817,000
1996	74.41%	76.25%	1,393,662	1,873,000
1998	79.72%	70.60%	1,482,811	1,860,127
1999	79.71%	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	1,502,146	1.884.582



VAP figures obtained from U.S. Consus finternet Release 9/15/99]

	COUNTY	18 & Older Population 9/99*	Registered Voters 12/31/99	% of Residents Registered 1999
Arkansa		- 15,246	11,338	74%
Ashley	Contract of the last	17,750	14,005	79%
Baxter	A COLUMN TO SERVE	29,384	24,811	84%
Benton		100,458	78,748	78%
Boone	The state of the s	24,147	20,857	86%
Bradley	THE RESERVE TO	8,529	6,503	76%
Calhoun	The last of the la	4,241	3,600	85%
Carroll	1000	17,113	13,322	78%
Chicot	A. L. HARMAN	10,348	8,010	77%
Clark		17,123	13,301	78%
Clay		13,365	10,132	76%
Clebume		18,138	14,939	82%
Clevelan		6,301	4,908	78%
Columbia	Line and the same	18,747	14,956	80%
Conway		14,849	12,205	82%
Craighea		58,611	41,202	70%
Crawford		35,872	25,795	72%
Crittende	0.	34,577	26,294	76%
Cross		13,810	10,300	75%
Dallas	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	6,761	5,825	86%
Desha	HEN .	10,520	8,414	80%
Drew	AND SOURCE OF	12,792	9,735	76%
Faulkner	COLOR PUBLIC	58,252	46,459	80%
Franklin		12,456	9,383	75%
Fulton		8,464	7,326	87%
Garland		66,550	59,322	89%
Grant		11,743	8,616	73%
Greene		27,220	20,735	76%
Hempste		16,145	12,133	75%
HotSprin	g	21,701	17.258	80%
Floward		9,994	7.187	72%
Independe	ence	24,586	18,475	75%
Izard		10,312	7,953	77%
Jackson		13,545	10,695	79%
Jefferson		59,498	46,565	78%
Johnson	The second second	16,106	11,658	72%
Lafayette		6,544	5,432	83%
Lawrence		13,145	10,220	78%
Lincoln		8,649	7,186	83%
Little Rive		10,949	6,778	62%
Logan		9,683	8,387	87%
Lonoke		15,585	12,879	83%
Madison		35,589	27,687	78%
Marion		9,710	8,732	90%
Miller		11,656 28,828	9,637	83%
Mississip	oi :	35,071	20,299	70%
Monroe	1 - 7 H/9 (0 to 10	7.269		71%
Montgom	nov.	6,720	- 5,777	79%
Nevada		7,354	5,488	82%
Newton**		5,965	6,074	83%
Quachita	Venil	20,829	20,049	104% 96%
Perry	7 Harrison - 1	7,206	6,357	
Phillips	THE WAS INDE	18,211	17,340	88%
Pike	SU ESCOLES	7,881	6,106	95%
Poinsett	S STATE OF THE STA	18,301	12,870	77%
Polk	(Ed)	14,628	11,295	70% 77%
Pope	and the same	38,408		
The second second		7,072	30,807	80%
Prairie		260,972	5,628 221,983	80%
Prairie Pulaski		200,872		85%
Pulaski		19 970	0.070	7907.00
Pulaski Randolph		13,378	9,675	72%
Pulaski Randolph Saline		56,901	47,295	83%
Pulaski Randolph			THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	

TOTALS	1,884,582	1,502,146	80%
Null/Irregular Data		9	
Yell	14,275	10,460	73%
Woodruff	6,401	4,763	74%
White	48,448	37,306	77%
Washington	103,974	77,487	75%
VanBuren	12,178	10,428	889
Union	33,229	24,806	759
Stone	8,591	7,498	87%
St. Francis	19,179	16,774	87%
Sharp	13,238	10,870	82%
Sevier	10,747	6,830	64%

^{*}Prepared by UALR Demographic Research Office, Institute for Economic Advancement **Registration % over 100% indicates probable overestimation in VAP (US Centus Internet Release Date 9/15/99)

"I never vote for anyone. I always vote against."

W. C. Fields

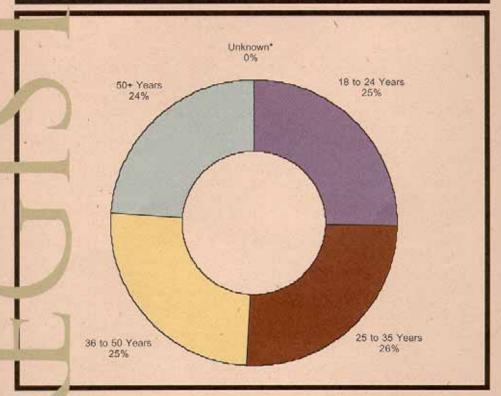
Registration During 1999...

Overall registration in Arkansas grew only 1% during the year. 57,062 Arkansans registered, while 37,727 were canceled from the rolls. Since the inception of NVRA in 1996, the rolls have grown by 28%. Highest growth (over 40%) to date exists in the following counties: Johnson, Benton, Faulkner, Lonoke, and Washington.

No one specific age group registered in greater numbers than another during the year, allowing the 50+ group to maintain its lead in Arkansas at 44.6% of voters. The US Census reports that 18 to 24 year olds have reversed their decline in numbers which began in 1981. In 1998, the largest group of registrants was 25 to 44 years. However, as the Baby Boomers move into the 50+ group, the scales are quickly shifting.

Age Demographics of 1999 Registrants

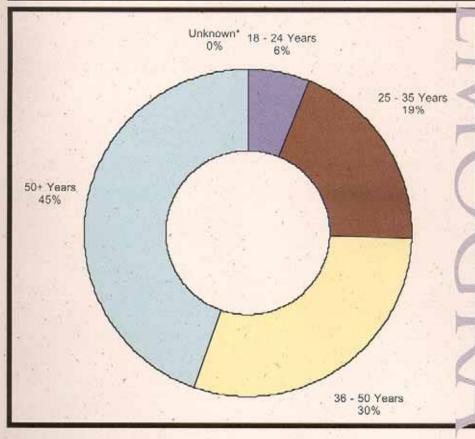
	AGEGROUPS	TOTAL	
)	18 to 24 Years 25 to 35 Years 36 to 50 Years 50+ Years	14,345 14,735 14,287 13,663	
	Unknown*	32	1
	TOTAL	57,062	



*Due to irregular or null values in database

Age Demographics of all Arkansas Registered Voters

AGE GROUPS	TOTAL
18 - 24 Years	92,869
25 - 35 Years	290,680
36 - 50 Years	448,432
50+ Years	669,384
Unknown*	781
	4 1 =
TOTAL	1,502,146



*Due to irregular or null date of birth values in database

	COUNTY	Registered Voters 12/31/95	Registered Voters 12/31/96	Registered Voters 12/31/97	Registered Voters 12/31/98	Registered Voters 12/31/99	%Change 98/99	%Change 95/99 (Since NVRA)
Artual	NAME .	41,370	10,777	10.807	11263	11,338	1%	21
Ashle	ty.	12,5(1)	14,014	114,277	14,530	14,005	-4%	12
Elando	the second	10,919	23,555	24,345	24,864	24,811	0%	25
Bento	0	53,467	67,833	71.177	73,729	78,748	7%	47
Boons		16,790	19,040	20,114	25,784	20,857	0%	24
Brade	97	5.645	6.348	8,463	6,468	6,503	176	15
Calho		3,410	3,710	3,660	3,743	3,600	-4%	5
Carro		10,435	12,449	12.831	13,437	13,322	-1%	28
Chico		7,178	7,985	8,066	8,160	8,010	-2%	12
Clark		10,544	12,410	12,642	13,274	13,301	0%	26
Clave		6,178	9,417	9,850			1%	24
-	107	-			10,002	10,132		
Clebu		11,806	13,608	14,426	14,918	14,939	0%	27
CSSVB		4.102	4,726	4,843	5,008	4,908	-2%	-17
Calum	nibini .	11,686	13,876	.14,433	14,770	14,956	156	28
Comy	itty	10,540	12,224	12,394	12,362	12,205	11%	35
Craid	bead	31,477	37,604	39,018	40,504	41,202	2%	31
Crawl	ford +	20,481	23,234	24,082	25,136	25,795	.3%	26
Colmin		21,582	24,780	25.587	26,930	26,204	-2%	22
dious		8,510	0.729	0.800	10.368	10,300	-1%	21
_		5,953	5,240		6,040	5,825	-4%	-2
Cinitor			- Contractor	6,201		The second secon		
Dosh		8,777	7,801	8,029	8,284	8,414	2%	24
Orew		7,672	9,305	9,488	9,874	9,735	-184	27
Fault	2101	32,186	39,785	42,644	44,498	46,459	4%	_44
Frank	din	7,660	+ 5,000	9,220	9,480	9,383	-1%	* 22
Futor		6,036	7,010	7,153	7,370	7,326	-195	21
Garte		44,001	54,898	56,839	58,802	50,322	1%	36
Gord		7,175	8.207	8,350	8,663	- 8,616	-1%	20
-			-		the state of the s			
Geber		16,383	18,815	19,692	20,467	20,735	1%	27
_	ostend	10,442	12,015	12,224	12,436	12,133	-2%	- 16
Hut B	pring	14,327	18,579	16,891	.17,210	17,258	0%	20
Hirwi	ed '	5,343	- 6,007	7,098	7,221	7,187	0%	35
huleus	endenos	18,013	18,023	17,201	18,271	18,479	1%	23
leard	The second second	6,757	7,687	7.812	8.143	7.953	-2%	18
Jacks		8.915	10,357	10.690	10.843	10,695	-1%	20
Jetter	7.5	36,144	44,067	44,743	45,206	46,566	2%	22
-								
Johns		6,331	7,648	9.294	11,424	11,658	2%	84
Lafay		4,678	5,324	5,508	5,451	5,432	0%	16
Eavie	erice	8,548	9.646	9.887	10.064	10,220	2%	20
Lee		0,228	7,167	7,317	7,438	7,166	1 -3%	15
Lincol	at the same of the	5,730	0.374	6,507	6.740	6,770	1%	18
Little	River:	7,122	0.179	8,407	8,360	6,387	0%	18
bogar		11,162	12.591	12,896	13,207	12,879	-2%	15
Londe		19,632	24,109	25,201	26,636	27,687	4%	41
Media		6,700	7,647	7,674	8,690	8,732	0%	30
Mang		7,435	9,006	9236	9,568	9,637	1%	30
Mane		17,128	18,373	18,595	20,013	20,299	156	19
M/551	ssippi:	* 22,011	25,159	25,447	25,610	24,903	-3%	10
Monne	nio -	4,897	5,637	5,723	5,872	6,777	-2%	18
Monte	comery	4,816	5,513	5,609	5,001	5,480	+3%	14
Never		5,233	5,978	6,106	6,142	6,074	-1%	- 1ê
Newto		5,113	5,000	5,979	6,095	6,193	2%	21
Ounn		16,682	18,803	19,304	- 19,944	20,049	1%	20
-			100000	The second secon		The second division in		
Perry		5,997	6,243	6,364	6,546	6,357	-3%	1/
Philip	179	13,930	15,791	16,101	17,184	17,340	1%	- 24
Piku		5,006	5,854	5,926	6,300	6,106	-3%	22
Prima	utt	10,720	12,258	12,785	.13,060	12,870	-2%	20
Polic		8,806	10,516	10,678	11,311	11,295	0%	29
Pope		22,472	28,864	30,237	30,624	30,807	1%	37
Prairie		5,019	5,486	5.504	5704	5,628	.0%	12
Public		171,443	909,136	214,373	217,466	221,983	2%	25
Rank		7,684	8,823	9,290	9,643	9,675	0%	26
-		-						
Salra		35,932	44,118	45,517	47,033	47,295	1%	33
South		7,088	7,691	7,631	7,644	7,480	-2%	
Searc	y	4,681	5.681	5,689	6,153	8,165	0%	30
Sebus	STATE .	49,168	53,376	57,199	62,081	63,228	2%	25
Sevie		6.063	6.738	6.741	6.983	6,830	-2%	13
Sharp		19,1680	10,840	11,032	11,210	10,870	-3%	15
	ancie	13,106	15,598	18.063	16.825	18,774	0%	- 28
		6,383	7,183	7,347	The second second	7,498		17
Store					7,627		-2%	
Unon		21,613	24,296	24,808	25,003	24,806	-1%	10
VanB		1,760	- 10,025	10,222	10.519	10,428	-1%	15
	angton.	55,126	70,096	72.903	74,309	77,487	4%	- 41
White		20,230	32,253	34,120	34,209	37,306	9%	45
Wood		4,417	4.816	4,853	4,808	4,763	-1%	
Toll		9.067	10,219	10,390	10.837	10,460	-3%	15
	fregular Data	TAGE	19,470	14,345	14,647	TWYNOU	24.3	14
Marymon								

Negative parcentage changes normally indicate progressive data cleanup and maintenance on the vater rolls.

High growth counties since 1995 are Johnson and Berson Counties.

Registration by Congressional Districts

First Congressional	
County	Registered Voters 12/31/99
Arkansas	11,338
Clay	10,132
Clebume	14,939
Craighead	41,202
Crittenden	26,294
Cross	10,300
Fulton	7,326
Greene:	20,735
Independence	18,475
Izard	7,963
Jackson	10,695
Lawrence	10,220
Lee E E E	7,186
Lonoke	27,687
Mississippi	24,903
Monroe	5,777
Phillips	17,340
Poinsett	12,870
Prairie	5,628
Randolph	9,675
St. Francis	16,774
Searcy	6,165
Sharp	10,870
Stone	7,498
Woodruff	4,763
District 1 Total	346,745

Third Congressional		
County	Registered Voters 12/31/99	
Baxter	24,811	
Benton	78,748	
Boone	20,857	
Carroll	13,322	
Crawford	25,795	
Franklin	9,383	
Johnson	11,658	
Logan	12,879	
Madison	8,732	
Manan	9,637	
Newton	6,193	
Polk	11,296	
Pope	30,807	
Scott	7,480	
Sebastion	63,228	
Washington	77,487	
District 3 Total	412,312	

Second Congressional		
County	Registered Voters 12/31/99	
Conway	12,205	
Faulkner	46,459	
Perry	6,357	
Pulaski	221,983	
Saline	47,295	
VanBuren	10,428	
White	37,308	
Yell	10,460	
District 2 Total	392,493	

Fourth Congressional				
Zingstra se littural	Registered Voters			
County	12/31/99			
Ashley	14,000			
Bradley	6,50			
Calhoun	3,600			
Chicot	8,010			
Clark	13,30			
Cleveland	4,900			
Columbia	14,956			
Dallas	5,825			
Desha	8,41			
Drew	9,73			
Garland	59,32			
Grant	8,616			
Hempstead	12.133			
HotSpring	17,258			
Howard	7,187			
Jefferson	48,588			
Lafayette	5,432			
Lincoln	6,778			
Little River	8,387			
Miller	20,296			
Montgomery	5,488			
Nevada	6,074			
Ouachita	20,049			
Pike	6,106			
Sevier	6,830			
Union	24,806			
District 4 Total	350,587			

Registration Information

Registration Information		TO BUILD
Total Voters Year End 1999	1,502,146	79.71% of VAP
Arkansas VAP (U.S. Census Projection 11/3/1998)	1,884,582	
Total Voters Year End 1998	1,482,811	
Total Voters Cancelled 1999	37,727	2.54%
Total New Voters Added 1999	57,062	1.30%
Total Active Voters Year End 1999	1,377,842	91.72%
Total Inactive Voters Year End 1999	107,444	7.15%
Total Voters with Null or Irregular Status	16,860	1.12%
THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	De In Color State on	THE PARTY OF THE P
Year End Registration - Age Groups	A CONTRACTOR OF	ANTHA CANADA
18-24(1/1/76-12/31/82)	92,869	6.18%
24-36(1/1/65-12/31/75)	290,680	19.35%
36-50(1/1/50-12/31/64)	448,432	29.85%
50+(DOB<12/31/49)	669,384	44.56%
DOB Null or Irregular	781	0.05%
New Registrants 1999 - Age Groups	57,062	3.80%
18-24	14,345	25.14%
24-36	14,735	25.82%
36-50	14,287	25.04%
50+	13,663	23.94%
DOB Null or Irregular	32	0.06%
Party Affiliation Statewide	46,965	3.13%
Democrat	32,983	2.20%
Republican	13,982	0.93%
None	1,455,181	96.87%
Party Affiliation New Registrants	4,365	7.65%
Democrat Democrat	2,439	4.27%
Republican	1,926	3.38%
None	52,697	92.35%

"Too many people expect wonders from democracy, when the most wonderful thing of all is just having it."

Walter Winchell

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NVRA Data

Applicants choosing to send their voter registration information to their County Clerks offices electronically from Driver Services offices virtually doubled in 1999 from the previous year. Correspondingly, those "walking in" to their local county courthouses to apply to register to vote was roughly one-half of 1998's figure. The power of the National Voter Registration Act is definitely being exercised by Arkansans in their choice to combine renewing their drivers licenses with applying to register.

NVRA Data 1999

NVRA Data 1999		
Total Applications Processed by County Clerks	70,033	
New Registration Applications	60,692	86.66%
Address Change Applications	7,803	11.14%
Name Change Applications	1,504	2.15%
Party Change Applications	34	0.05%
Applications Processed as Duplicates	731	1.04%
Applications Placed In Pending	505	0.72%
Applications Declined	876	1.25%
Applications with Null Status	221	0.32%
Total Applications Processed by SOS Mail Room or Electronically from DMV	58,632	83,72%
Sources of All Applications Processed by		
County Clerks (State Agencies, etc.) Disability Agencies	70,033	
And the same of th	267	0.38%
Driver Services License Related	29,647	42.33%
Driver Services Non-License Related	2,027	2.89%
Mail-ins to SOS Non-Agency	13,741	19.62%
Recruitment Offices	145	0.21%
National Guard	71	0.10%
Public Assistance Agencies	4,234	6.05%
Voter Registration Drives	1,406	2.01%
County Clerk Walk-Ins	17,214	24.58%
No Agency Source Identified	24	0.03%
Public Libraries & Arkansas State Library	1,257	1.79%
Declinations	805,447	
Disability Agencies	17,764	2.21%
Driver Services and Revenue	738,371	91.67%
Recruitment Offices	0	0.00%
National Guard	36	0.00%
Public Assistance Agencies	44,095	5.47%
Public Libraries & Arkansas State Library	5,181	0.64%

General Issues

NVRA introduced two types of "status" to voters in 1996: active and inactive. A County Clerk may assign an "inactive" status to a voter if 1) the voter does not respond to a piece of correspondence or 2) if a mailing is returned to the Clerk as undeliverable. Inactive voters grew by 81% this year, due to the second address confirmation cycle since NVRA and to routine data cleanup. Inactive voters may reactivate their statuses simply by voting or by corresponding with their Clerks. Otherwise, after a voter's status is inactivated, he faces cancellation after failing to vote in two consecutive federal general elections.

If a county reflects a negative number in registration growth, then the county has clearly engaged in essential data cleanup with little growth for the year.

Affiliation with a political party continues to be unpopular with voter registrants. Only 7.65% of the 1999 registrants declared a party affiliation. The overall Arkansas figure remains low at 3.13% of voters declaring themselves as either Democrats or Republicans.

NVRA Agencies in Arkansas

Arkansas Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services

Arkansas Department of Education, School for the Blind

Arkansas Department of Education, School for the Deaf

Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission

Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Services

Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health

Department of Human Services, Division of Services for the Blind

Department of Human Services, Medicaid

Department of Human Services, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)

Department of Human Services, Food Stamp Program

Department of Human Services, Children and Medical Services

Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services

Arkansas Department of Health, Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Arkansas State Library

Arkansas State Library, Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Arkansas Public Libraries

Arkansas National Guard

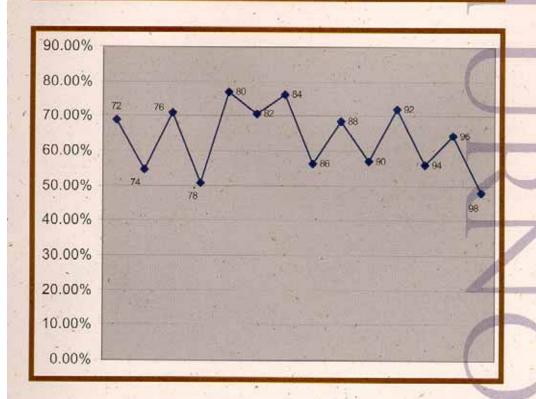
Recruitment Offices of the Armed Forces of the United States

Department of Motor Vehicles

Department of Finance and Administration

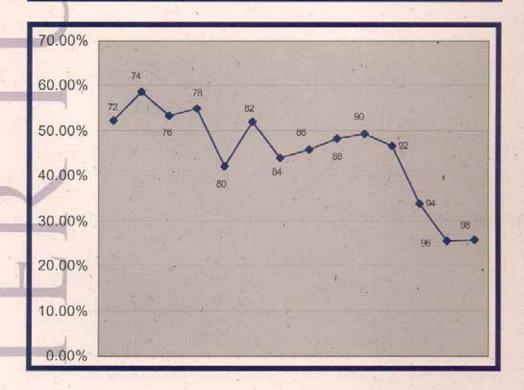
General Election Voter Turnout Comparisons from 1972

Year	Voter Turnout %	Registered Voters	Turnout	Basis for percentage
1972	68,90%	939,871	648.069	Gubernatorial
1974	54.70%	996,985	545,947	Gubernatorial
1976	71.20%	1,020,533	726,963	Gubernatorial
1978	51.00%	1,047,453	534,299	Gubernatorial
1980	77.00%	1,076,654	838,926	Gubernatorial
1982	70.70%	1,116,082	789,351	Gubernatorial
1984	76.40%	1,159,588	886,548	Gubernatorial
1986	56.60%	1,227,575	695,487	U.S. Senate
1988	68.80%	1,203,016	827,738	Presidential /
1990	57.10%	1,218,525	696,310	Gubernatorial
1992	72.10%	1,317,944	950,653	Presidential
1994	56.20%	1,274,885	719,550	Gubernatorial
1996	64.57%	1,369,459	884,262	Presidential
1998	47.98%	1,471,413	706,011	Gubernatorial
1998	47.98%	1,471,413	706,011	Gubernatorial



May Primary Voter Turnout Comparisons from 1972

Year	Voter Turnout %	<u>Registered</u> <u>Voters</u>	Turnout	Basis for percentage
1972	52.50%	939,871	493,500	U.S. Senate
1974	58.70%	996,985	585,378	U.S. Senate
1976	53.40%	1,020,533	548,765	Gubernatorial
1978	55.10%	1,047,453	577,870	U.S. Senate
1980	42.10%	1,076,654	453,583	Gubernatorial
1982	52.00%	1,116,082	580,472	Gubernatorial
1984	44.10%	1,159,588	511,361	Gubernatorial
1986	45.90%	1,188,831	543,740	Gubernatorial
1988	48.40%	1,170,107	565,849	Presidential
1990	49.40%	1,171,027	578,123	Gubernatorial
1992	46.80%	1,191,000	557,493	Presidential
1994	33.80%	1,222,840	413,150	Atty Gen+Gov
1996	25.61%	1,282,364	343,203	Presidential
1998	26.02%	1,435,722	373,578	U.S. Senate



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